

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

Sherwood Island State Park

Pavilion Renovations
Westport, Connecticut

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About the Art in Public Spaces Program:

Connecticut's Art in Public Spaces program was established in 1978 and requires 1% of the cost of construction or renovation of publicly accessible state buildings be allocated for the commission or purchase of artwork as part of the building's construction project. The [Connecticut Office of the Arts](#) and the Department of Administrative Services jointly administer the Art in Public Spaces Program. Visit the [Art in Public Spaces](#) program webpage for further information about the program and to view past installations throughout the state.

Project Summary:

The Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) are currently seeking the qualifications of artists for exterior sculptural artwork associated with the pavilion renovation construction project at Sherwood Island State Park in Westport, Connecticut. The committee may also consider interior and/or wall installations.

Budget: approximately \$20,550

RFQ Deadline: June 7, 2016

Eligibility:

Artists MUST register a portfolio in the Art in Public Spaces Registry. Submit a new registration or update an existing profile by the deadline indicated above. Review the [registry webpage](#) for more information about the registration process. The Sherwood Island State Park project is open to both in-state and out-of-state artists with regional artists given priority in the selection process.

About the [Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection \(DEEP\)](#)

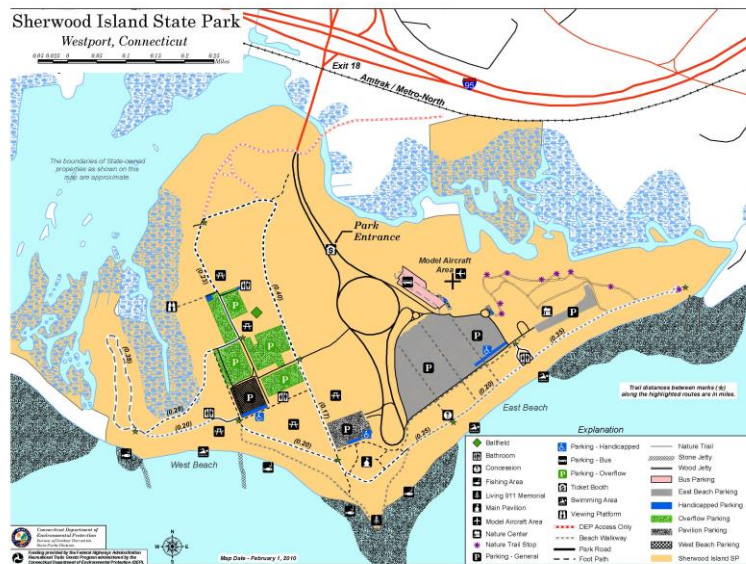
DEEP is charged with conserving, improving and protecting the natural resources and the environment of the state of Connecticut as well as making cheaper, cleaner and more reliable energy available for the people and businesses of the state. [Connecticut's Division of State Parks and Public Outreach](#) includes 109 parks that attract more than 8 million visitors each year.

Established in 1913, the mission of the Connecticut State Park System is to provide natural resource based public recreational and educational opportunities through a system of state park and forest recreation areas, environmental centers and nature centers which provide an understanding of, access to, and enjoyment of the state's historic, cultural and natural resources.

About Sherwood Island State Park:

[Sherwood Island State Park](#) is located in Westport, CT and is Connecticut's first state park. The park includes 235 acres of beach, wetlands, and woodlands. The park is used year-round for long walks along the shoreline and is a popular destination in the summer months.

The Park is cared for in partnership with the [Friends of Sherwood Island](#) who assist with preservation efforts and plan numerous park activities. More about the history of the park, its features, and activities can be found on the Friends website.



Sherwood Island State Park is home to Connecticut's official 911 memorial, the September 11 Living Memorial. Sherwood Island State Park was chosen as CT's official 911 memorial because on a clear day the New York City skyline is visible from the point. The park also served as a staging area for relief efforts.

At the 10 year anniversary of the 911 tragedy, a public art piece was commissioned for the pavilion which includes cladding from the Twin Towers. *Sanctuary* (shown below) is a sculptural wall relief that embraces the names of those with Connecticut ties who were lost.



The Sherwood Island Pavilion was originally built in 1961 with renovations recently completed in the summer 2015. The renovations included new concession facilities, improved interior design, and landscaping

improvements. The pavilion is a striking architectural feature at the park and includes glass panels which provide protection from the elements on harsh days without interrupting the view of Long Island Sound.



Project Description:

The selection committee is seeking exterior sculptural artwork in particular, but may consider interior and/or wall mounted works of art as the project progresses through the review process. As part of the committee discussions, it was determined that the 1% for Art funding provides the Connecticut shoreline state parks with an opportunity to begin the development of a publicly accessible sculpture walk that connects the various parks through a cohesive trail experience. At this time, the following state parks are seeking to commission works of public art through the Art in Public Spaces Program: [Sherwood Island State Park](#) in Westport and [Hammonasset Beach State Park](#) in Madison. Additional shoreline parks include: [Silver Sands State Park](#) in Milford, [Rocky Neck State Park](#) in Niantic, [Harkness Memorial State Park](#) and [Seaside State Park](#), in Waterford.

Through the Art in Public Spaces program, public artwork will be commissioned to initiate an outdoor sculpture walk. Connecticut State Parks include a vast network of trails systems and pristine public lands and the development of a sculpture walk will enhance the outdoor experience at Connecticut's parks. In addition, the art funding allocated through the construction project provides an opportunity to initiate a sculpture trail that may be expanded upon through private supported donations into the future. Please note that artworks considered for this site must be durable and able to withstand the harsh conditions of the Long Island Sound coastline. Artists will also be responsible for all costs associated with the design, fabrication, and installation of artwork.

Selection Process:

The Sherwood Island State Park project is administered as a Request for Qualifications (RFQ). Therefore, artists interested in this project must first register a portfolio in the [Art in Public Spaces Registry](#). There is no application process. The selection committee will review the portfolios of artists registered in the database and will shortlist a group of artists who will be invited to submit site-specific proposals for the project.

Portfolios of artists already registered in the Art in Public Spaces Registry will automatically be reviewed. The registry is designed as a one-time registration process allowing artists to be considered for multiple projects; therefore, portfolios should indicate a range of work samples. Updates may be made but COA recommends limiting updates to no more than once a year.

For ALL questions related to the Art in Public Spaces program and the Sherwood Island State Park opportunity, please contact:
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